



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20240-0001

Dear Tribal Leader,

On behalf of the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), I would like to invite you or your designee to participate in Government-to-Government consultations concerning an upcoming rulemaking that would propose to revise the existing regulations governing *Pipelines and Pipeline Rights-of-Way*.

The *Pipelines and Pipeline Rights-of-Way* regulations in 30 CFR part 250 were last updated 15 years ago. The proposed rule incorporates and clarifies existing policies and guidance to allow for improved planning, safer operations, increased environmental protections, and enhanced and more efficient technical and environmental reviews by BSEE and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. The proposed rule also incorporates elements of existing Bureau policy, Notices to Lessees and Operators, and a Letter to Lessees and Operators to provide a more certain, complete, and effective regulatory framework for future permittees and existing stakeholders. Lastly, the proposed rule addresses submittal requirements for the associated permit applications, plans, and reports that have been revised and updated to address needs associated with National Environmental Policy Act analyses based on lessons learned.

In accordance with recommendations derived from the lessons learned, BSEE has identified certain topics within these *Pipelines and Pipeline Rights-of-Way* regulations that are worth reconsidering. These topics include, but are not limited to:

1. New rental rates for pipeline Rights-of-Way and accessory sites;
2. Pipeline system design, fabrication, installation, modification, and repair standards;
3. Pipeline system decommissioning;
4. Use of certified verification agents for pipeline riser design, fabrication, installation, and life extensions; and
5. Pipeline system safety equipment, leak detection, and internal corrosion control and flow assurance.

Your perspective is important to BSEE's process for development of this proposed rule, and we welcome the opportunity to consult with you on this matter. If you would like to initiate consultations on this subject, please contact Jack Lorrigan, Tribal and Community Liaison. Mr. Lorrigan or another member of my staff will then contact your organization to set up a suitable time for a consultation. Our goal is to conduct any such initial consultations by July 28, 2023.

Thank you for your consideration of this invitation, and we look forward to meeting with you and your representative(s). If you would like to submit written comments either in addition to, or instead of, in-person consultation, you are welcome to do so.

If you have questions, please contact Jack Lorrigan on 907-334-5357, or at jack.lorrigan@bsee.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kevin M. Sligh, Sr.", written in a cursive style.

Kevin M. Sligh, Sr.
Director